friendly schemes through which the STBs will be made available to consumers.

(vi) Government has reduced the duty on import of STBs and its components to make the STBs more affordable.

Deteriorating Standards of the Indian Film Industry

95. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fast deteriorating standards of the Indian film industry degenerating into obscenity, nudity and cultural degradation; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to ensure that the Indian films confirm to the cultural ethos of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films under the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. The objectives of film certification are to ensure that:

(i) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;

(ii) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed;

(iii) certification is responsive to social change;

(iv) the medium of film provides clean and health entertainment; and

(v) as far as possible, the film is of aesthetic value and cinematically of a good standard.

The following guidelines in the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1991 address the concerns raised:

2(vii) Human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity or depravity;

2(ix) Scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented;

2(x) Scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape, rape or any form of molestation or scenes of similar nature are avoided and if any such incident is germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and not details are shown;

2(xi) Scenes showing sexual perversion shall be avoided and if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown.

CBFC has confirmed that the guidelines laid down are being adhered to.

National Judicial Commission

96. SHRI LALIT SURI:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed discussions with various political parties and groups in the Parliament to arrive at a consensus on the setting up of the National Judicial Commission;

(b) if so, what would be the functions of the Commission; and

(c) by when a legislation on the subject would be introduced in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Constitution (Niney-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2003 has been introduced in the Parliament on 9.5.2003 for the setting up of National Judicial Commission. The proposed Commission shall:

(i) make recommendations of persons for appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and Chief Justices and Judges of the High Courts;

(ii) make recommendations for the transfer of Chief Justices and Judges of the High Courts from one High Court to any other High Court;